

Message Text

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ACTION EB-08

INFO OCT-01 ARA-10 EUR-12 EA-10 NEA-10 IO-13 ISO-00

FEA-01 AGRE-00 CEA-01 CIAE-00 COME-00 DODE-00

FRB-03 H-01 INR-07 INT-05 L-03 LAB-04 NSAE-00

NSC-05 PA-01 AID-05 SS-15 STR-05 ITC-01 TRSE-00

USIA-06 PRS-01 SP-02 OMB-01 /131 W

-----126258 170207Z /64

R 161457Z SEP 77

FM AMEMBASSY MADRID

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1758

INFO AMEMBASSY VIENNA

AMEMBASSY BRASILIA

AMEMBASSY OTTAWA

AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY ROME

AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV

AMEMBASSY TOKYO

AMEMBASSY MEXICO

USMISSION GENEVA

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: ETRD, GATT, MTN, SP

SUBJECT: REVIEW OF U.S. POSITION ON AUTOMATIC IMPORT LICENSING

REF: (A) STATE 220513; (B) STATE 140759

FOLLOWING INFORMATION IS KEYED TO QUESTIONS PARA 4 REF B.

A) SPAIN MAINTAINS THE LIBERALIZED TRADING STATUS (AUTOMATIC IMPORT LICENSING) FOR THE GREAT MAJORITY OF THE PRODUCTS IT IMPORTS. UNDER THIS SYSTEM, LOCAL IMPORTERS MUST SUBMIT TO MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AN IMPORT DECLARATION

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APPLICATION WHICH IS AUTOMATICALLY APPROVED WITHIN A FEW DAYS. THE FUNCTION OF THIS SYSTEM IS STATISTICAL, IN ORDER THAT MINISTRY MAY HAVE ADVANCED INFORMATION ON VOLUME AND TYPE OF IMPORTS. THE APPROVED IMPORT DECLARATION ALSO SERVES AS AUTHORIZATION FOR THE LOCAL IMPORTER TO OBTAIN FOREIGN EXCHANGE FROM LOCAL BANKS WITH WHICH TO PAY FOR IMPORTED GOODS.

B) THERE DOES NOT APPEAR TO BE ANY PRACTICAL ALTERNATIVE METHOD FOR OBTAINING INFORMATION ON IMPORTS PRIOR TO ACTUAL PHYSICAL IMPORTATION OF GOODS. STATISTICAL DATA ON ACTUAL PHYSICAL IMPORTATION OF GOODS IS GATHERED AND PUBLISHED BY SPANISH CUSTOMS OFFICE BASED ON ACTUAL CUSTOMS CLEARANCE OF GOODS AT TIME OF ENTRY.

C) WITH THE EXCEPTION COMMODITIES SUBJECT TO GLOBALIZED TRADE (SEE MADRID A-15 DATED FEBRUARY 9, 1977), TO THOSE SUBJECT TO STATE TRADING (GENERALLY PETROLEUM PRODUCTS, GRAINS, MEAT (FROZEN OR FRESH), TOBACCO (LEAF OR MANUFACTURED), SUGAR, AND A SMALL NUMBER OF OTHER MINOR PRODUCTS WHOSE IMPORTATION IS PROHIBITED BY LAW (SUCH AS COINS, POSTAGE STAMPS, PORNOGRAPHIC MATERIALS), IMPORTATION OF ALL OTHER PRODUCTS AND COMMODITIES IS LIBERALIZED, I.E. FALL WITHIN THE IMPORT DECLARATION (AIL) SYSTEM.

D) EMBASSY DOES NOT KNOW OF ANY ACTUAL INSTANCES WHEN THE AIL SYSTEM HAS BEEN USED TO DELIBERATELY RESTRICT IMPORTS. THERE REPORTEDLY ARE INSTANCES WHEN APPROVAL (WHICH BY LAW MUST BE GRANTED), HAS NOT BEEN AUTOMATIC. IMPORT DECLARATIONS IN THESE INSTANCES, HAVE BEEN SUBJECTED TO ADMINISTRATIVE DELAY. REPORTEDLY SUCH DELAYS APPARENTLY ARE FOR ONLY SHORT PERIOD OF TIME. DURING THE COURSE OF THE PAST YEAR WE HAVE NOT RECEIVED ANY COMPLAINTS FROM LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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SPANISH IMPORTERS CONCERNING SUCH PRACTICES. AS A PRACTICAL MATTER, IF GOS FOUND IT NECESSARY TO RESTRICT THE IMPORTATION OF A GIVEN ITEM, THEY PROBABLY WOULD REMOVE THE ITEM FROM THE LIBERALIZED SYSTEM AND PLACE IT EITHER UNDER GLOBAL QUOTAS OR STATE TRADING, RATHER THAN RELY ON ADMINISTRATIVE DELAY.

E) EMBASSY IS NOT AWARE OF ANY PREFERENTIAL TREATMENT OR DISCRIMINATION ASSOCIATED WITH AIL. DISCRIMINATORY TREATMENT IS NOT PRACTISED BY THE GOS. EATON

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: POLICIES, IMPORT LICENSES
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 16-Sep-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1977MADRID06924
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D770338-0156
Format: TEL
From: MADRID
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1977/newtext/t19770956/aaaabuyc.tel
Line Count: 104
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History: Hold (001 Tobacco) added on 4/16/2009 3:39:05 PM by WASHDCMcGoldRJ, Hold (001 Tobacco) removed on 4/16/2009 3:45:02 PM by WASHDCMcGoldRJ (Litigation Hold Lifted)
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: 86d73245-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ACTION EB
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 77 STATE 220513, 77 STATE 140759
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 22-Nov-2004 12:00:00 am
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 1247230
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: REVIEW OF U.S. POSITION ON AUTOMATIC IMPORT LICENSING
TAGS: ETRD, SP, US, GATT
To: STATE
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odbc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/86d73245-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
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